

## **Campton Conservation Commission**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, April 1, 2020**

#### **Meeting held over Zoom**

Members present: Jess Halm, Jane Kellogg, Dan Boynton, Shannon Garnsey, Rebecca Steeves, Dick Osbourne

Dick called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM. Jane taking notes. Meeting also recorded on Zoom.

1. Minutes of March 4 meeting. Review. Jess moved to accept. Dan seconded. Roll call vote taken. All voted in the affirmative. Motion passed.

2. Covid-19 effect on present meeting and functioning of Commission. Discussion about use of Zoom format for meetings, which worked well for meeting with grant writer, Carolyn Singer, last week. All commissioners are able to access audio and video. Consensus was to continue meeting in this way.

3. Status of WBB Forest planning

a. Land survey: Jane recused herself from this discussion. Two survey companies had submitted estimates: Saborn/Tower of Lincoln for \$16,700 and Kellogg of Littleton for \$12,500. Dan posted copies of the 2 estimates received onto screens for comparison and review. Sayborn/Tower's bid could be \$3,000 higher if all work described included in the Kellogg estimate were done. There was discussion about property line markers that can be custom ordered, but they would not be able to go up until after actual land purchase is complete, not at the time of the survey. Commissioners were willing to do property line markings themselves after corner monuments were set by the surveyor. Dan moved to hire Kellogg Survey and Mapping and agreed to pay up to \$14,000 if the job comes in over the estimate. Jess seconded. Roll call vote was taken. Vote was 5 affirmative and 1 abstention.

b. Public Hearing: postponed from April 1 to April 22 @ 6:30. This is planned as a Zoom meeting. There was discussion about ways of getting the word out in the community and ways people can get into the Zoom session. Dan can take messages from those requesting to be invited into the session. There was then discussion about getting a dedicated CCC gmail address for this purpose, as well as for outreach for donations to the project (see below). Dan will work to figure this out in the coming days: CCC gmail account or possible under the Campton town account, password, etc. He will also be sure this gets to the Campton Forward group and that Carina is posting this meeting date/time and contact to get into the session. Jess agreed to post a notice on the Town Office door the evening of the meeting, in case anyone shows up there.

c. Project budget: Dan posted the draft budget numbers. Discussion led to a total figure of \$240,000. There was then discussion about the 4 funding sources: LCHIP grant, ARM grant, donations, the town's Conservation Fund. Numbers for budget and funding are still in draft form. By June when grant applications are due, numbers would need to be finalized and voted on.

d. Report of Fundraising Subcommittee: Jess, Shannon. There was discussion about the recent changes to social distancing, homeschooling of children, working from home, and the additional stresses this had led to among those initiating this fundraising effort with others when only remote meeting formats are available. Jess reported about contact with Dean Johnson of the Central NH Snowmobile Club and his willingness with an additional member to reach out to their eager membership. They will generate an outreach letter/email(or use the one we create) and use their Pay Pal account to collect donations from their members. They could then write a check of the club's donation along with a list of names. Jess suggested that if each CCC commissioner makes at least a small donation, we can report that level of support from

CCC members to others as we reach out for more donations. Jane reported about conversation with subcommittee member, Peggy Martin, about an idea of generating a letter requesting donations of any kind, which each CC member would get into the hands of, say, 5 people in the community. This could be "kicked off" at the Public Hearing on April 22, with a goal of accepting donations until the end of May. Grant applications due in June could then report the level of community funding support. Dan suggested creating a slick showing a general map locating the property, some information about the land, the effort. This could be combined with outreach letter. Jess will meet with Peggy Martin to begin generating a letter for review. Dan and Ron (mapping) will assist.

Things that will need to be determined: 1) donation checks sent where? or over Vimeo? or Pay Pal?  
2) writing outreach letter, with map? 3) payment to CCC, TOC, TOC Conservation Fund? (Shannon will check with Carina) 4) Number of people willing to match smaller donations collected, up to what amount? We have 2 so far. \$1000 was suggested.

e. Grant applications work: review next steps: March 26 was the last Zoom meeting with Carolyn Singer. She will send around drafts for our review soon. Jane had begun working on documenting needed outreach and community support that is needed for grant applications. Dan posted the draft on the screen for review. Continued review, additions can be made on Google Docs.

f. Attorney B Ray: bill for legal work to date received in early March. \$ 633.75. Dan posted it on the screen. Jess moved to authorize payment. Dick seconded. Roll call vote. 6 voted to approve. Shannon will forward the bill to Carina and request payment be made from the Conservation Fund.

4. Barry Summer Camp status: No news of any changes to date.

5. Timber harvesting trends: Dick reached out to Mike Powers asking whether there are new accepted timber harvesting trends which have led to increased clear cutting noted in our town. He reported that there are no new accepted methods suggesting use of clear cutting.

6. Lands Management: Annual review of Pattee Conservation Park and Blair Woodland Natural Area, conservation lands managed by the commission. BWNA: Dick reported that the parking lot could be opened soon, after all ice is gone, and trails are generally in good shape. With anticipated increased use by locals, Dan suggested posting something on the kiosk about social distancing while walking there. Dick will find or create something to post. Jane volunteered to take down the gate within the next week.

At PCP, it's expected to continue collaboration with the C Garden Club on maintaining the Liberty Tree.

7. Shifting of CCC duties more to Jane and Dick to lesson the load of others working from home with children to also homeschool. Jess said she thinks it's already happening on its own.

8. Road Litter Clean Up scheduled for April 19 @ 8. Still plan on doing, with social distancing.

9. Any other business: Dan reported the Deer Run dam project is now finally going forward.

10. Correspondence: since meeting remotely, we were unable to go to the mailbox for any mail. Jane will go to the Town Office lobby in the coming days to see if there's anything of importance.

Dick adjourned the meeting at 8:40 PM.

Next meeting: May 6. Jane to Chair.

These minutes were approved by the CCC at the May 6 meeting via Zoom/JK